

# HISTORY OF THE BOARD

## 1890's

- **1891** - Legislature established the State Surveyor General which included the first licensing board for land surveyors in California and the nation. The first 2,146 land surveyors were licensed by the Board.

## 1920's

- **1928** - St. Francis Dam failure in Los Angeles County. Lives lost numbered approximately 450; property damage was in the millions of dollars; 1,200 houses were demolished; and 10 bridges washed out. Inspections revealed the dam was built on, and anchored to, a weak and faulted rock formations.
- **1929** - The California Legislature creates the Board of Registration for Civil Engineers.

## 1930's

- **1931** - Structural Engineer license added by the Legislature.
- **1933** - Land Surveyor licensing authority transferred to the Board by the Legislature.

## 1940's

- **1947** - The Legislature added restrictions on use of engineering titles (this began the creation of the "title acts") for the branches of professional engineering in the fields of chemical, electrical, mechanical, and petroleum engineering.

## 1960's

- **1965** - The Legislature added restrictions on use of engineering titles for the branch of metallurgical.
- **1967** - The Legislature added restrictions on the practice of electrical and mechanical engineering (change in status from "title act" to "practice act") and on use of engineering titles for the branch of industrial engineering.
- **1968** - The Legislature delegated authority to Board to create new title acts.

## 1970's

- **1972-75** The Board expanded the registration program to include 9 additional "title act" branches: agricultural, control systems, corrosion, fire protection, manufacturing, nuclear, quality, safety and traffic engineering.

## 1980's

- **1982** - The Geotechnical engineer license was added by the legislature. Civil engineers licensed after 1981 are not authorized to practice land surveying.
- **1986** - The Board's authority to create new "title act" registrations was eliminated by the legislature.
- **1985-87** The requirement for testing of all civil engineering applicants on engineering surveying principles and seismic principles added by the legislature.

## 1990's

- **1996** - The Board participated in its first Sunset review.
- **1999** - Board changed its name to Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and Eliminated three "title acts": corrosion, quality, and safety engineer

## 2000's

- **2000** - The Legislature added written contract for professional services.
- **2001** - The Board contracted for review of all "title acts".
- **2003** - Eliminated the "title act" for manufacturing engineering and Participated in the Sunset review.
- **2009** - Legislation was enacted that eliminated the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists and transferred all of the duties, powers, purposes, responsibilities, and jurisdiction to regulate the practices of geology and geophysics to the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.
- **2010** - Participated in the Sunset review.
- **2011** - Effective January 1, 2011, the name of the Board was changed to the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.
- **2014** - Participated in the Sunset review.
- **2015** - Participated in the Sunset review.